



The Elba Clipper

Volume 127, Number 39 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, February 15, 2024 1 Section, 8 Pages Plus 1 Adv Insert

Elba Police make drug possession arrests

Elba Police continued their battle against illegal drugs last week with a couple of arrests made for multiple offenses.

According to Coffee County Jail records, Elba Police arrested Stephanie Kay Forte early Saturday morning, Feb. 10, and she was charged with possession of a controlled substance



S. Forte

[\$10,000 bond], possession of marijuana – second degree [\$6,000 bond], and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia [\$6,000 bond].

Records further show that Forte was released from the county jail Monday afternoon, Feb. 12, after posting bond.



R. Gibbs

Feb. 6, Elba Police arrested Robert Ryan Gibbs on possession charges. He was charged with possession of a controlled substance [\$7,500 bond], misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia [\$2,500 bond], and misdemeanor failure to appear [\$500 cash bond].

As of press time, Gibbs remained in the county jail.



NO INJURIES REPORTED FROM TWO-VEHICLE ACCIDENT MONDAY AFTERNOON...Emergency personnel in Elba responded Monday afternoon, Feb. 12, to the scene of a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Smith Avenue and Herman Driggers Drive in Elba. The accident was reported to Coffee County Dispatch at 4:47 p.m. It involved a tractor-trailer and a passenger car (pictured above). According to Elba Police, the driver of the car failed to stop at the stop sign on Herman Driggers Drive, and collided with the tractor-trailer that was traveling on Smith Avenue. Elba Police investigated the accident, and units from the Elba Volunteer Fire Department and Enterprise Rescue also responded to the scene. Fortunately, no one was injured in this accident.

In Circuit Court of Coffee County - Enterprise Division

Stiven pleads guilty to five counts of sodomy

12th Judicial Circuit District Attorney James Tarbox last week announced the conviction of defendant for sexually abusing his minor daughter.

On Thursday, Feb. 8, in the Circuit Court of Coffee County, Enterprise Division, Tarbox said Jeremy Stiven, age 38, entered guilty pleas to five counts of sodomy – first degree.

"By agreement, defendant Stiven was sentenced to 27 years in the Alabama Department of Corrections," the district attorney said.



J. Stiven

"Due to the nature of the offenses involving a child under the age of 12, this sentence will be served day for day, with no possibility of parole or early release."

Tarbox said Stiven would not begin serving the sentence until he is released from the state of Michigan on unrelated, but similar charges involving another victim.

"It was important to me and our office that our minor victim be protected as much as possible in this process, as well as that this defendant receive a significant punishment for the vile and disgusting conduct he committed against his daughter," Tarbox said. "This plea agreement accomplishes both goals because our minor child victim will be spared having to testify at trial, and this defendant will be incarcerated for decades to come."

Once released from custody, Stiven will have to comply with the requirements of the Alabama Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act.

"I appreciate the bravery of our victim in this matter, as well as the work of the Enterprise Police Department and Sgt. Gerard Dube on this case," D.A. Tarbox added.

Grantham seeks election to Coffee County Commission

Clint Grantham announces his candidacy to seek the District One seat on the Coffee County Commission. He is running for office as a Republican candidate.

Raised in the Wiregrass, Grantham said for most of his life he viewed politics as something that happened far away by an elected class of people and not something he needed to be concerned about personally.

"I expected if I ignored government then government would kindly ignore me," Grantham said. "The last several years proved I couldn't have been more on the Coffee County wrong. You and I can no longer afford to leave our governance to chance, somehow expected our liberties, values, and morals to be safeguarded for our children and grandchildren."



Clint Grantham

Grantham said citizens have, over the past 20 years, seen the damage done when they ignore civic responsibility, and he said that must stop.

"We can no longer afford to be absent in our government," he said. "We must be the living champions of the conservative Christian values our parents and grandparents taught us her in the Wiregrass."

Taking that step forward, Grantham said he chose to seek election to the Coffee County Commission. With his campaign, he said he believes there should be term limits for offices.

"If elected, I promise to term limit myself," he said. "No politician should be in office for 20 years."

Grantham is a member of the Alabama Republican Executive Committee, member of the Coffee County Republican Executive Committee, a qualified Trump delegate to the Republican National Committee, founder of South Alabama Liberty, and a member of the ALGOP Capital Club. He also is a member of Hebron Baptist Church.

He believes in supporting and defending both the U.S. and Alabama Constitutions and said working to ensure election integrity. "If elected Coffee County Commissioner for District One, I will actively work with Sheriff Byrd to ensure his funding needs are met to protect Coffee County and work with all law enforcement to reduce property crime and theft," Grantham said. "I also believe it

Area Happenings

The Coffee County Republican Committee will host a Town Hall meeting Thursday, Feb. 15, at 5:30 p.m. at the Elba Theatre in downtown Elba, with District 1 and District 2 Republican candidates for Coffee County Commissioner along with Republican candidates for Coffee County Circuit Clerk, and Republican candidates Coffee County School Board, District 3. Light refreshments will be served.

The Elba Chamber of Commerce will host its Eggs 'N Issues Breakfast Friday, March 1, beginning at 7:30 a.m. at the Fellowship Hall of Elba First Baptist Church. This meeting will provide election and legislative updates. Local candidates for the March 5 Primary Elections have been invited to participate along with current local legislative representatives. Breakfast tickets are \$10. Call the Elba Chamber of Commerce office [34-897-3125] for more details.

The Elba Lions Club annual Pancake Breakfast will be Saturday, March 2, from 6-10 a.m. at the National Security Conference Center. Cost is a \$5 donation per plate.

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Coffee County Commission chairman Dean Smith (right) reads the proclamation presented Monday morning, Feb. 12, to Career and Technical Education high school programs from all schools in Coffee County recognizing February as Career and Technical Education Month. A representative from each school (Elba, Enterprise, Kinston, New Brockton, and Zion Chapel) accepted a copy of the proclamation from Smith.

Career and Technical Education receives special recognition from Coffee County Commissioners

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Career Technical Education (CTE) students from across Coffee County attended the Coffee County Commission meeting Monday morning, Feb. 12, along with their instructors and administrators as commissioners signed a proclamation recognizing

February as Career and Technical Education Month. Each high school present – Elba, Enterprise, Kinston, New Brockton, and Zion Chapel – were presented a copy of the proclamation by commission chairman Dean Smith. The proclamation recognized that CTE provides students with a school-to-career connection

and is the backbone of a strong, well-educated workforce.

Both Elba City Schools superintendent Chris Moseley and Coffee County Schools superintendent Kelly Cobb were in attendance for the presentation, and they each thanked commissioners for recognizing the value of the career and technical education programs by signing the proclamation.

Also, during Monday's meeting, commissioners approved a recommendation from county administrator Rod Morgan to award a bid for fire alarm monitoring at the new SBI building to Miller Alarms in the amount of \$19,202.74.

A couple of roadway projects will be moving forward also following actions Monday from commissioners.

County engineer Michael Walters noted a roadway gulley issue on County Rd. 506, which he said USDA federal grant monies could be utilized to repair. On his recommendation, commissioners voted to execute

See CCC, Page 2



These Elba High School Career and Technical Education (CTE) students attended the Coffee County Commission meeting Monday morning, Feb. 12, in New Brockton. Just as the Coffee County Commission proclaimed the month of February as Career and Technical Education month during its meeting Monday morning, the Elba City Council did the same Monday night, during its meeting. Mayor Tom Maddox asked all citizens of Elba to join him and council members in applauding all career and technical education programs and the students that participate in those programs. Elba students pictured here include (from left): Adalyn O'Neal, Brooke Tinsley, Izayah Johnson, Brian Hunter, Nash Richards, and Zalie McKelvy.




The Elba Parks and Recreation's 10U Boys Basketball team completed the slam dunk on a perfect season last weekend by bringing home the Pea River Basketball League's 10U tourney championship trophy! Elba coaches said it was a tough season with great competition, but the team stayed focused to go undefeated this basketball season. The league championships were held in Kinston, and Elba defeated the Kinston 10U team to win the championship. The team and coaches are pictured above prior to their championship game last weekend. Team members were Kylan Carpenter, Ayden Foster, AJ Harrelson, Jace Mitchell, Antonio Hill, Christian Johnson, Jacks Bane, MeZiyon Hammonds, Carter Mitchell, Tykiem Flowers, Jace Poole, Justin Copeland, Ladarius Lockett, Kaiden Hall, and Colton Dye. Also pictured are coaches Chris Poole, Bradley Bane, and Dexter Watkins.

EDITORIAL

Elba Police Report

This report reflects Feb. 6, 2024, through activity for the Elba Police Department from Tuesday, Monday, Feb. 12, 2024, as reported to and dispatched



Frances D. Brunson
Feb. 27, 1942 - Feb. 14, 2001

A Sweetheart of a Wife, Mother, Grandmother and Friend. You are truly missed by all of us.

"I thank my God every time I remember you." Philippians 1:3

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from the Coffee County 911 Dispatch Center –

Tuesday, Feb. 6 – Traffic accident reported at 672 Herman Driggers Dr (12:53 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 413 Adkinson Ave (4:09 a.m.); Suspicious person reported on Beaver Dam St (8:06 a.m.); Suspicious person reported at 804 Hwy 203 (8:12 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 413 Adkinson Ave (10:17 a.m.); Animal complaint reported on Simmons St (10:44 a.m.); Suspicious person reported in the area of Polka and Davis streets – w/ arrest (5:36 p.m.); Traffic accident reported at 130 County Rd 407 (6:22 p.m.). Thirteen traffic stops resulted in three verbal warnings, seven written warnings, one advice given, and one citation.

Wednesday, Feb. 7 – Verbal altercation reported at 890 Cedar Lane Dr (12:50 a.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 1770 Hickman Ave (3:33 a.m.); Traffic accident reported at 1883 Hickman Ave (12:03 p.m.); Gas drive-off reported at 412 N Claxton Ave (6:16 p.m.); Traffic accident reported at 1691 Hwy 189 (6:47 p.m.); Traffic accident reported at 1700 Smith Ave (7:33 p.m.). Five traffic stops resulted in two citations, and three written warnings.

Thursday, Feb. 8 – Smell of smoke reported at 716 W Davis St (8:11 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1021 Teresa St (2:03 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 1415 Jones St (7:50 p.m.); Assault reported at 1282 Ann St (8:23 p.m.). Four traffic stops resulted in two written warnings, and two citations.

Friday, Feb. 9 – Suspicious person

reported at the bridge on Davis St (12:44 a.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 381 Tiger Dr (1:07 a.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 595 Newton St (1:12 a.m.); Traffic accident reported at 412 N Claxton Ave (7:33 a.m.); Reckless driver reported on County Rd 306 (4:31 p.m.); Stolen vehicle reported at 602 Mullins Circle (6:15 p.m.). Six traffic stops resulted in two written warnings, one citation, and three verbal warnings.


Saturday, Feb. 10 – Suspicious person reported at 1249 Neil Grantham Dr (12:47 p.m.); Verbal altercation reported at 615 Jackson Ave (7:45 p.m.); Suspicious person reported on Hwy 87 N (11:46 p.m.). Three traffic stops resulted in one arrest, one verbal warning, and one citation.

Sunday, Feb. 11 – Theft of property reported at 811 Buford St (8:34 p.m.). One traffic stop resulted in advice given.

Monday, Feb. 12 – Suspicious vehicle reported at 120 N Factory Ave (12:45 a.m.); Rolling domestic disturbance reported on FitzSimmons St in New Brockton – w/ arrest (2:54 a.m.); Theft of property reported at 415 W Davis St (8:18 a.m.); Theft of services reported at 154 Yelverton Ave (10:30 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported in area of Hwy 203 and Sunset Blvd (11:54 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1649 Boswell St (2:20 p.m.); Traffic accident reported at intersection of Smith Ave and Herman Driggers Dr (4:47 p.m.); Report of shots fired on Caroline St (5:56 p.m.). Ten traffic stops resulted in three written warnings, three verbal warnings, three citations, and one arrest.



ACADEMIC AWARD...Elba High School 8th Grade student Dylan Holley participated earlier this week with several of his classmates at the National Jr. Beta State Convention in Montgomery, Ala. On Tuesday, Feb. 13, Holley was recognized for his 5th in the state finish in the Social Studies competition. Dylan is the son of Jason and Julie Holley of Elba.



Cuzin Lou Lou's Tales from Yonder

Editor's Note: Cuzin Lou Lou's tales are to be

Well, Papa is crying a bit this week after he (or should we say - his truck) lost a battle to a deer Sunday night.

Lou Lou was away from the house when Papa got home from church and revealed his misfortune. Sister called Lou Lou and she quickly came home to assess the damages.

Good news was Papa

was okay, but the front of his truck will require some repair. The story has been as good as most 'fishing tales' as what began as one deer soon became two or three deer to run out in front of him. As long as Papa wasn't hurt, he can tell it like he needs...just to make himself feel better.

Until next time...God Bless and Keep Smiling!

CCC Continued from Page ONE

an agreement between the county and USDA for federal aid funds to make the necessary gully repairs.

Walters said the county's match portion to these grant funds (\$26,000) would be

delivered through in-kind services on the project.

Also, commissioners approved a request from the county engineer to execute a resolution to initiate a federal aid funding project with the Alabama Department of Transportation to resurface and stripe County Road 514 from Alabama Hwy. 87 northwest to Alabama Hwy. 12 (U.S. Hwy 84) and County Road 515 from County Rd. 114 northwest to Alabama Hwy. 304 (E McKinnon St. in New Brockton).

Commissioners approved two reappointments to the SEARP&DC (Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission) board. Both Gladys Yelverton and Rod Morgan were reappointed for new terms on the board.

SEEK (Continued from Page 1)

important for us to address the growing drug and homeless problems we are seeing."

Grantham also said he would work with educators to help ensure teachers have the tools they need to educate.

"I support school choice and will defend parental rights," he added.

Further, Grantham said he would support the USDA Farm to School nutrition program.

"Observing changes of the past several years, I have come to recognize that political solutions are local," he said. "That means both you and I have the power to impact what matters most in our county and the Wiregrass. For too long, Alabama, rather than taking the lead, follows on the most important issues we face. We must all take a more active role in our community."

Grantham said he promises to fight the 'woke' agenda at all levels of government.

"This civic responsibility is the only weapon we have as citizens to ensure our government truly represents the community that elects them," he said. "This is why I am running for office and humbly ask for your vote March 5th in the Republican Primary Election."

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$21 per year

6 Months - \$11, including city & state tax

Alabama Counties - \$24 per year - including tax

6 months - \$13

Outside Alabama - \$27 per year - 6 months - \$15

Obituaries

Obits are updated regularly on our website: www.elba-clipper.com

HAZEL BRUNSON PRIOR

Mrs. Hazel Brunson Prior, age 98, of Stone Mountain, Ga., died peacefully Thursday, Feb. 8, 2024.

Born Jan. 6, 1926, in Elba, Ala., Hazel was the youngest of ten children of Forrest "Frost" Brunson Sr. and Ida Kate Sinefield Brunson.

In Elba, she met Hayden O'Neal Prior whom she married in 1944. Eventually they settled in Atlanta, Ga., where they raised their three sons Charles Michael, Thomas Edwin and John William.

Hazel and Hayden were founding members of Briarlake Baptist Church, Decatur, Ga., where they were active members throughout their lives. At BBC Hazel taught Sunday School, worked with Mother's Day Out and expanded on her love of cooking while working as a church caterer. Hazel also was a beautician for many years.

After taking an art class at Briarlake, Hazel developed a passion for oil painting. Over the years she gifted her artwork to family, friends and even acquaintances.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2024, at 1 p.m., at Briarlake Baptist Church, Decatur, Ga. in lieu of flowers, the

family asks that donations be made to Briarlake Baptist Church, 3715 LaVista Rd., Decatur, GA 30033.

Burial was at Floral Hills Memory Gardens with a reception immediately following at the Floral Hills Funeral Home, Tucker, Ga.

Hazel was preceded in death by her husband of 55 years, Hayden, and her nine siblings.

Survivors include her three sons and their spouses: Mike (Barbara), Tom (Laura), and John (Kris); nine grandchildren: Shaun Harrell, Jeffrey Prior, Susan Chance, Steven Prior, Wesley Prior, Amanda Wylie, Melissa Jennings, Bryant Jones and Justin Jones; along with 19 great-grandchildren; two great great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Deadline to apply in-person for an absentee ballots for March Primary Election is Feb. 29

Thursday, Feb. 29, at 4:30 p.m., is the deadline to apply in person for absentee ballots for the March 5th Primary Election.

Applications for absentee voting are available at the absentee election manager's office in New Brockton. Absentee Election Manager is Debbie Kinsaul. Mailing address is P.O. Box 427, New Brockton, AL, 36351. The physical location is 5 County Complex, New Brockton.

Alabama voters voting under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) may receive additional information by contacting the Board of Registrars' office or the office of the Alabama Secretary of State for expanded options.

Completed ballots must be returned by the voter in person to the Absentee Election Manager at 5 County States Postal Service, it must be postmarked no later than one day prior to the election, or if mailed through the United States Postal Service, it must be postmarked no later than one day prior to the election. Multiple ballots cannot be mailed in the same envelope.

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Coping with Grief and Loss on Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is a day celebrating the important relationships in your life. However, it can also bring up memories that trigger feelings of grief for those that have lost a special loved one. One thing to keep in mind is while it can be easy to isolate yourself when you feel sad, prolonged isolation may prevent you from being able to work through your grief. While some time for reflection can be good, it is important you find a healthy balance.

Find ways to spend time with those who can support you. Here are some ways to cope with grief and loss this Valentine's Day.

1) Schedule a phone call or virtual chat. If you can't spend time with friends or family in person, reach out to schedule some time either on the phone or through video chat. You can even pick an activity to do together such as baking, cooking, or a craft.

2) Talk to a professional or support group. It can also be helpful to attend a therapy session or support group session. This gives you time to talk with others who are going through similar experiences.

3) Go to the cemetery. This may not be the best choice for everyone, but for some, it may be therapeutic to visit your loved one's grave on Valentine's Day. Read a poem or letter, leave flowers or simply sit and reflect.

4) Treat yourself. If you need an excuse to indulge in a little self-care, Valentine's Day is a great opportunity. Brighten your home with flowers, order take out from your favorite restaurant or take a day trip to your favorite spot.

5) Continue as usual. There is no reason why you need to do anything special at all on Valentine's Day if you don't feel like it.

If you are supporting someone who has lost a special loved one, remember you can reach out to them as well. Set up a phone call or visit and let them know you are thinking about them.

If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at hayeshf@hayesfuneralhome.net

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STATE OF ALABAMA: COUNTY OF COFFEE: ELECTION APPOINTMENT BOARD POLL WORKER APPOINTMENT

Pursuant to the provision of Section §17-8-1 et. Seq., Code of Alabama, 1975 as last amended, we the undersigned Virginia Cavanaugh for Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of Probate; Scott Byrd, Sheriff; and Krista Andrews for Amy Reeves, Clerk of Circuit Court, as members of the Election Appointment Board for Coffee County Alabama do hereby appoint the following named electors to conduct the Primary and Run-Off Election to be held on March 5, 2024 and April 16, 2024.

Done this the 14th day of February, 2024

/s/ Virginia Cavanaugh for Jodee R. Thompson,
Judge of Probate

/s/ Scott Byrd, Sheriff

/s/ Krista Andrews for Amy Reeves,
Clerk of Circuit Court

NOTICE TO ALL ELECTION OFFICIALS

In accordance with the 1975 Code of Alabama Section §17-8-9, a School of Instruction will be held for all election officials. State law provides that no election official shall serve in any election district in which a voting machine is used, unless he or she has received such instruction from the instructor prior to each election. All election officials must attend the election schools by law. The Election School will be held on the following dates: *9:00 a.m., Saturday, February 24th At the Coffee County Commission Meeting Room, in New Brockton

DISTRICT ONE

ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST

CHRIS SUTLEY - INSPECTOR

CABERT MILLS - PROVISIONAL BALLOT OFFICER

VELMA MOORE - CLERK

WAYNE SUTLEY - CLERK

MAC MOORE - CLERK

MATT BRUNSON - CLERK

MARY GRIDER - CLERK

WISE MILL

JULIA A. BROOKS - INSPECTOR

SARA ELIZABETH DYESS - CLERK

SYBLE HENDERSON - CLERK

GLORIA MOSELEY - CLERK

NEW BROCKTON COMMUNITY ROOM

CHARLES ELLZEY - INSPECTOR

CYNTHIA SMART - CLERK

CAROLYN MORGAN - CLERK

DEBBIE WALTERS - CLERK

RENE WHITE - CLERK

BOB KELLEY - CLERK

PINE LEVEL

DIANE SMITH - INSPECTOR

JEAN HELMS - CLERK

WAYNE SMITH - CLERK

DANIEL STEPHENS - CLERK

NEWBIA

ESTIN BAKER - INSPECTOR

CHARLES L. BAKER - CLERK

RICKY VINSON - CLERK

SHIRLEY STAGNER - CLERK

BLUFF SPRINGS

CAROLYN JACOBS - INSPECTOR

SHEILA MILES - CLERK

DEBRA LITTLE - CLERK

GRACANNE JACOBS - CLERK

ZION CHAPEL

BOBBY WAYNE NELSON - INSPECTOR

ANNETTE PARKER - CLERK

TERRY MILLER - CLERK

KATHY MCLEOD - CLERK

LEE COMMUNITY

CHARLOTTE ANDERSON - INSPECTOR

BERNICE CULVER - CLERK

JOAN DOWNING - CLERK

JANICE COLE - CLERK

DISTRICT TWO

HERITAGE METHODIST CHURCH

KEN SHOEMAKE - INSPECTOR

TINA LEWIS - PROVISIONAL BALLOT OFFICER

CHERYL SHOEMAKE - CLERK

ASHLEY MUNGUIA - CLERK

MARK WESLEY JOHNSON - CLERK

MELISSA MUNGUIA - CLERK

PATRICK LAIDLAY - CLERK

STEPHANIE JOHNSON - CLERK

FRED ZAYAS - CLERK

KAY ZAYAS - CLERK

ROBERT PIERCE - CLERK

NICHOLAS CIRANNI, JR. - CLERK

FRISCO

DONALD WESTON BROWN - INSPECTOR

WILLIE MAE BROWN - CLERK

MARY ALICE WALKER - CLERK

TOMMIE ORTEGA - CLERK

EANON

DONALD CULLEN - INSPECTOR

ELIZABETH WHITAKER - CLERK

BOB LITTLEFIELD - CLERK

ART ESTRADA - CLERK

DISTRICT THREE

HOLLEYS STORE

A. ANN PHELPS - INSPECTOR

MELISSA HOLLEY - CLERK

SHERRY HATAWAY - CLERK

KELLY HATAWAY - CLERK

DAMASCUS

JASON WINDHAM - INSPECTOR

HARRY DAVIS - CLERK

LOETTE NELSON - CLERK

DEBBIE WILKINS - CLERK

PLEASANT RIDGE

DONNA DAVILA - INSPECTOR

GINGER W BOYD - CLERK

BOB HELMS - CLERK

MARSHA MARTIN - CLERK

INO

CRYS FULLER - INSPECTOR

JEANETTE BARLETTE - CLERK

KAREN M. DAVIS - CLERK

SHAN SESSIONS - CLERK

GOODMAN

BOB H. BOWDOIN - INSPECTOR (PRIMARY)

BILL MCDANIEL - INSPECTOR (RUN-OFF)

TINA MCDANIEL - CLERK

KAYE CLARK - CLERK

DONNA MCVEIGH - CLERK

KINSTON

CHRIS BAKER - INSPECTOR

GLENDIA CLARK - CLERK

MYRA MOSS - CLERK

MYRA MULLINS - CLERK

BASIN

MALCOLM WISE - INSPECTOR

JANE GREEN - CLERK

DALTON FRANCIS, SR. - CLERK

NANCY FRANCIS - CLERK

ELBA MASONIC LODGE

SYLVIA PADGETT - INSPECTOR

JUDY YOUNG - CLERK

DAVID G. BAKER - PROVISIONAL BALLOT OFFICER

JAMES O. COLES - CLERK

PAULA BOWDEN - CLERK

EULA MAE BROOKS - CLERK

DISTRICT FOUR

ENTERPRISE STATE COMM COLLEGE

MONICA COLE - INSPECTOR

DEBRA BOYD - CLERK

ANITA GRIMES - CLERK

CINDY DUNAWAY - CLERK

PAMELA CHRISTIAN - CLERK

KELLI DOOLEY - CLERK

PATRICIA MILLER - CLERK

CYNTHIA GORZELNIK - CLERK

MT PLEASANT

SUZIE MCDONALD - INSPECTOR

JAMES M WILKS - CLERK

PENNY LAPHAM - CLERK

SHARON SESSIONS - CLERK

COLLEEN MCINTOSH - CLERK

THELMA UNDERWOOD - CLERK

HILDA RUMPLE - CLERK

SONJA HELMS - CLERK

TRI-COMMUNITY VFD (COOL SPRINGS)

TED R. MARTIN - INSPECTOR

ROBERT PIETRAS - CLERK

ANN BURCH - CLERK

JENNIFER GROSS - CLERK

DISTRICT FIVE

ELBA ZION CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CNTR

GLADYS YELVERTON - INSPECTOR

MARY HELEN ROBINSON - CLERK

ELOISE GOOSBY - CLERK

OLLIE HENDERSON - CLERK

NEW BROCKTON SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER

LEO BROWN - INSPECTOR

ROBERT FLEMING JR - CLERK

PEARL BROWN - CLERK

CAL DONNIA HOWARD - CLERK

MELISSA WILLIAMS - CLERK

JOHNS CHAPEL AME CHURCH

CASSANDRA R. ODOM - INSPECTOR

ELISE WILSON - PROVISIONAL BALLOT OFFICER

DOROTHY RICHARDSON - CLERK

HENRY C. PETTY JR - CLERK

JANICE WILSON JOHNSON - CLERK

PINKIE LEE MCSWAIN - CLERK

TALMADGE "LAPONCE" HARRISON - CLERK

KATHLEEN CLARK JACKSON - CLERK

EARNEST ODOM - CLERK

ROBERT BENDERS - CLERK

ANNIE HOOKS - CLERK

DISTRICT SIX

YMCA

BARBARA GOODSON - INSPECTOR

PATRICIA ANN CAMPBELL - PROVISIONAL

BALLOT OFFICER

BILL CARTER - CLERK

MICHELLE PARROTT - CLERK

RUBY FERNANDEZ - CLERK

JOHN PATTI - CLERK

YOLANDA AUSTIN - CLERK

ASHLEY MARSHALL - CLERK

PAUL ENGLISH, JR - CLERK

MICHELLE ENGLISH - CLERK

HEATHER LUNA - CLERK

CHRISTOPHER BOKENFOHR - CLERK

CHRISTA TINLIN - CLERK

MARY SUE CAIN - CLERK

MARGE SIMMONS - CLERK

SHENISE STAMPS - CLERK

LESLIE A.L. OLSON - CLERK

DISTRICT SEVEN

ENTERPRISE CIVIC CENTER

SHAMARA RAY - INSPECTOR

ABBIE AYERS - PROVISIONAL BALLOT OFFICER

JUDI STINNETT - CLERK

GREGORY DALE MONAGHAN - CLERK

KENNETH STINNETT - CLERK

TED C JONES - CLERK

CLASSIFIEDS

The Elba Clipper

P.O. Box 677 Elba, AL 36323

TO PLACE AN AD

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FAX 334-897-3434
e-mail clipper@troycable.net

DEADLINE

The deadline for placing a classified or other advertisement is noon on Tuesday of the week in which the ad is to appear.

COST

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* Additional words 20¢ each

We reserve the right to edit or refuse any ad at any time

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Prepaid personal ads get fourth week **FREE!**
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NEED NEW Flooring? Call Empire Today to schedule a Free in-home estimate on Carpeting and Flooring. Call Today! 1-888-381-0916.

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Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-833-683-2005

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-Year warranty with qualifying purchase* Call 1-(PHONE) today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Safe Step, North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-844-871-6175

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Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, we're waiving all installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 12/31/23 Call 1-877-205-0836

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material • steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer - up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-833-955-3163

LEGAL NOTICES:

STATE OF ALABAMA PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF COFFEE

PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING UPCOMING 2024 ALABAMA STATE-WIDE PRIMARY RUN OFF ELECTION
Pursuant to §21-4-23(b), of the Code of Alabama (1975), notice is hereby given of the following with regard to Coffee County, Alabama:

Instructions, printed in large type, conspicuously displayed at each voter registration site and polling place, sufficient to provide hearing impaired and seriously visually impaired individuals with adequate information as to how and where they may register and vote. Each polling place shall have an ExpressVote Voter

Assist Terminal for use by individuals with disabilities who would otherwise be prevented from voting because of their inability to mark a paper ballot. Absentee ballots are available to any individuals with a disability or elderly individual who, because of disability or age, is unable to go to their assigned polling place to vote on election day. The deadlines for requesting and submitting an absentee ballot is the same as it is for other persons seeking to vote by absentee ballot. Every individual, including individuals with a disability or elderly individuals, may select a person on his or her choice to accompany such individual into the polling place to assist with the marking and casting of a ballot, provided the per-

son providing assistance is not the voting individual's employer, agent of voting individual's employer, or an officer or agent of the voting individual's labor union. The Alabama Primary Run Off Election shall be held on April 16, 2024.

Jodee R. Thompson
Judge of Probate
2/15-chg.

Jodee R. Thompson
Judge of Probate
2/15-chg.

More
"Legal
Notices"
can be
viewed on
Page 5
of today's
paper!

LEGAL NOTICES:

Public Notices also are posted on the websites: www.elba-clipper.com and www.alabamapublicnotices.com at no extra charge

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOHN A. DEAN, Deceased.

CASE NO. PR 2024-012

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Suzanne E. Dean and Andy A. Dean, as Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate of John A. Dean, deceased, on the 22nd day of January, 2024 by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that all persons having claims against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.
/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Judge of Probate
2/1,8&15-pd.

IN THE PROBATE OFFICE OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOSHUA HAYES EBERSOLE, Deceased.
CASE NO: PR-2024-003

NOTICE TO FILE CLAIMS
Letters of Administration on the estate of JOSHUA HAYES EBERSOLE, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned on the 18th day of January 2024, by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Enterprise, Alabama. Notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate that they are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or they will be barred.
/s/ Shelby Laine Harding
SHELBY LAINE HARDING
Administrator of said Estate
2/1,8&15-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of DANNY H. MOCK, Deceased.
Case No.: PR-2024-018

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters of Administration for the Estate of **DANNY H. Mock** having been granted to **Danncey M. Wood**, Personal Representative, on the 29th day of January, 2024 by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Probate Judge for Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.
DONE this the 29th day of January, 2024.
/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Jodee R. Thompson,
Probate Judge
2/1,8&15-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF BRUNIECE HUGHES BARLEY, Deceased
CASE NO. PR-2024-015

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to Michaela Barley Smith, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Bruniece Hughes Barley on the 29th day of January, 2024, by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Probate Judge of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.
/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Hon. Jodee R. Thompson,
Probate Judge

Joshua Pipkin
Attorney for the Estate
P.O. Box 310272
Enterprise, AL 36331
(334) 348-1562
2/1,8&15-pd.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids for Lawn Care will be received by the City of Elba, at the meeting room of City Hall; 200 Buford Street; Elba, Alabama 36323, until 10:00 A.M. local time on February 29, 2024, at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read. Bids shall be on a lump sum basis.

The owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities. The bid is for lawn care maintenance for the following listed properties belonging to the City of Elba Lot #35 OF SMITH BRASWELL SUBD located at 1208 Highland Dr. Lots #22-27 of SMITH BRASWELL WEST SUBD located at 980 Drayton Ave.; 978 Drayton Ave.; 918 Drayton Ave. (on two lots); and two undeveloped lots.

Regular mowing and maintenance is required to be completed twice for the months of April through September, and once per month for the month of March and October through February.

The areas to be maintained include all areas within the lots described above. Mowing also includes needed weed-eating and edging as well as flower bed maintenance. Shrubs are to be pruned, beds weeded, and pine straw added once each year.

All trash, and debris, should be picked up and disposed of before and after each mowing.

The contractor will furnish all labor and equipment for the performance of this contract. All work is to be performed in a professional manner, using clean, and well-maintained equipment. Mowing must be done during daylight hours.

No mowing or weed eating should be done when people are present to protect them from flying rocks or debris. Any use of weed killer or other chemicals must be approved by the city street supervisor.

The contractor will be paid monthly at Elba City Hall for work completed and inspected. The name of the one responsible for inspection will be provided to the contractor.

The contractor will always have to maintain and provide proof of General Liability Insurance with a minimum of \$500,000 coverage, and a City of Elba Business License. The contractor is required to comply with all local, state, and federal employment rules and regulations.

The contractor shall be responsible for all property damage, accidents, injury, and any other liabilities incurred while performing the lawn care and maintenance. The City of Elba reserves the right to terminate this contract in the event it determines that the contractor has failed to satisfactorily perform the duties listed in the contract. A 30-day written notice of cancellation will be given to the contractor. Furthermore, the contractor is required to give in writing a 30-day notice if termination of services is desired or if said party becomes unable to fulfill this contract.

All interested parties should submit a sealed bid containing all appropriate contact information, commercial lawncare experience details, at least three references, and the annual bid amount they are submitting. This bid will be for a two-year contract. The contractor will be notified once selected after all bids are reviewed and due diligence by the city council has been completed. The selected contractor will then be required to submit all necessary documents and proof of insurance, as well as sign a copy of the lawn care maintenance to keep on file.

Due to the uncertainty of the mowing needs, we ask that bids be submitted on a "cost per cutting" basis. This will enable the council to

budget if additional mowing frequency is required during the summer months. Currently eighteen cuttings have been budgeted for the year. Your interest in this bidding process is greatly appreciated.

Owner: The City of Elba
By: Tom Maddox
Title: Mayor
2/1,8,15&22-chg.

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION IN RE: THE ESTATE OF ROBERT C. MAY, Deceased

CASE NO. PR-2024-014
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to Susan Boyd May, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Robert C. May on the 29th day of January, 2024, by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Probate Judge of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Hon. Jodee R. Thompson,
Probate Judge
Joshua Pipkin
Attorney for the Estate
P.O. Box 310272
Enterprise, AL 36331
(334) 348-1562
2/1,8&15-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LINDA S. FEJEDELEM, Deceased.
CASE NO. PR 2024-021

TAKENOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to D. Bruce McLean as Administrator of the Estate of Linda S. Fejedelem, deceased, on the 31st day of January, 2024 by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson,

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Judge of Probate
2/8,15&22-pd.

NOTICE OF ELECTION STATE OF ALABAMA COUNTY OF COFFEE

Pursuant to and in accordance with Ala. Code § 17-9-5 (1975), and such other requirements, I, Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of Probate of Coffee County, do hereby give notice that the Primary Election will be conducted in Coffee County on Tuesday, March 5, 2024. The offices to appear on the ballot are as follows:

President of the United States
Unites States Representative - District 1
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court
Court of Civil Appeals Judge, Place 2
Court of criminal Appeals Judge, Place 2
Public Service Commissioner
Circuit Clerk
County Commission - District 1
County Commission - District 2
County Commission - District 4
County Board of Education - District 3

On Tuesday, February 27th beginning at 1:30 p.m. the voting machines to be used in the March 5th Primary Election will be tested. The voting machine check will be conducted at the Farm Center Coliseum Building at the Coffee County Complex, E. McKinnon St., New Brockton. The test is open to the general public and anyone is invited to attend. This testing is pursuant to §17-7-25 Code of Alabama, (1975) as amended.

/s/Jodee R. Thompson,
Judge of Probate
Coffee County, Alabama
2/15-chg.

Small Ads Work!!

Call Us (334) 897-2823

SENIOR LIVING



COFFEE COUNTY EMA HELPS SENIOR BE "WEATHER PREPARED"...
Coffee County EMA deputy director Grant Lyons visited the New Hope Senior Citizens Center last Wednesday, Feb. 7, to speak on weather disasters and storm readiness with the seniors. Lyons also answered questions and discussed having phone alerts for severe weather warnings. He did a severe storm warning exercise with the seniors and timed them to see if they were able to react quickly. "I'm proud to say everyone made it to their 'safe place' in 41 seconds!" senior director Conzuella Banks said. "We are so thankful to Mr. Lyons for taking the time to come to our center to educate our senior community on weather awareness and preparedness."



LOCAL SENIOR CITIZENS ENJOY SWEETHEART BINGO...
On Monday, Feb. 12, the New Hope Senior Citizens Center and other centers around the Wiregrass area enjoyed 'Sweetheart Bingo' with the soldier wives from Camp Novosol. This is an annual event, and New Hope seniors look forward to it each year. The seniors were greeted with smiles and hugs at the door. When they arrived at the tables, they were beautifully decorated with Valentine's décor and snacks. Seniors also were served sausage biscuits, potato wedges, coffee and cheese. They won gifts and door prizes. New Hope Senior Center director Conzuella Banks said her seniors are thankful to all the vendors that donate prizes and food for this annual event to show love to senior community of the local area.

LEGAL NOTICES:

(continued from Page 4)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF JOXELL RAMIREZ VELEZ

CASE NO.: PRA-2023-019

NOTICE OF ADOPTION HEARING NOTICE TO: JAVIER RAMOS TORRES

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption in the above styled matter has been filed in the Probate Court of Coffee County, Enterprise, Alabama by the Petitioner named below and the 8th day of March, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. has been set for a hearing on the same in said Court in the City of Enterprise, Alabama. Please be advised that if you intend to contest this adoption you must file a written response within thirty (30) days with the attorney for the Petitioner whose name and address are shown below and with the clerk of the said Probate Court. A copy of the Petition to Adopt is attached to this Notice as required by statute.

Petitioner:
Joxell Ramirez Velez
306 W. Brunson Street
Enterprise, Alabama 36330

Attorney for Petitioner:
Thadus W. Morgan, Jr.
Post Office Box 310396 Enterprise, Alabama 36331

Dated this the 31st day of January, 2024.
/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of Probate

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF JOXELL RAMIREZ VELEZ

PETITION FOR ADOPTION
To the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of Probate:

COMES NOW the Petitioner, Joxell Ramirez Velez, age 28 years, address 306 W. Brunson Street, Enterprise, Alabama 36330, desiring to adopt a child under the provisions of Code of Alabama, 1975 §26-10a-1 et seq., respectfully show unto Your Honor as follows:

That the Petitioner is a resident of the State of Alabama, County of Coffee. That the Petitioner married the natural mother of the minor child, Javier Manuel Rivera Ramos, on November 19, 2017.

That the Petitioner respectfully petitions Your Honor for leave to adopt that certain minor child named and described as follows: Javiel Manuel Rivera Ramos, date of birth August 19, 2011.

That the child's name after adoption shall be Javiel Manuel Ramirez Ramos. That the Petitioner desires to establish a parent and child relationship with the adoptee and that the Petitioner represents to the Court that he is a fit and proper person

able to care for and provide for the adoptee's welfare. That said minor child is related to the Petitioner as follows: step-son.

The Petitioner further avers that said child is now in the custody of Frances Marie Ramos Torres, the natural mother, with the address of 306 W. Brunson Street, Enterprise, Alabama 36330, as the natural father has abandoned physical custody of the child to the mother.

The Petitioner further avers that there exist the following orders of Court regarding custody, visitation or access to the adoptee None. That there is not a placing agency.

That the names and last known addresses of all persons known to the Petitioner at the time of filing this Petition from whom consents or relinquishments to this adoption are required by law are as follows:

Name: Frances Marie Ramos Torres; Age: 31 years; Address: 306 W. Brunson St., Enterprise, AL 36330
Name: Javier Rivera Torres; Age: 36 years; Address: unknown

The Petitioner avers that the natural father, Javier Rivera Torres, has had no contact with the minor child since birth nor has he given any support for the child and has abandoned the child.

That said child has been in the home of the Petitioner since May 15, 2014.

WHEREFORE, the premises considered, the Petitioner prays that Your Honor will take jurisdiction of the matters contained in this Petition, issue an interlocutory order delegating custody and/or the responsibility for care, maintenance and support of the adoptee, and that Your Honor will set a day for a dispositional hearing and will make such other and further orders and decrees as may be necessary to effectuate the legal adoption of said child.

Done this 12th day of June, 2023.
/s/ Joxell Ramirez Velez
JOXELL RAMIREZ VELEZ
Petitioner

STATE OF ALABAMA COUNTY OF COFFEE

Before me the undersigned authority, personally appeared JOXELL RAMIREZ VELEZ who, being by me first duly sworn, deposes and says that he has read the foregoing Petition, that he understands same and that the matters therein contained are true and correct to the best of his knowledge.

/s/ Joxell Ramirez Velez
JOXELL RAMIREZ VELEZ

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12th day of June, 2023.
/s/ Toni D. Dewberry
Notary Public
My Commission Expires: 01/11/2027

Prepared by:
Thadus W. Morgan, Jr.
Attorney at Law
Post Office Box 310396
Enterprise, Alabama 36331
(334) 347-8130
2/8,15,22&29-chg.

**Notice to Contractors
Federal Aid Project No.**

STPAA-HSIP-0027(520) COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

Sealed bids will be received by the Director of Transportation at the office of the Alabama Department of Transportation, Montgomery, Alabama until 10:00 AM on February 23, 2024 and at that time publicly opened for constructing the Safety Widening, Resurfacing, and Traffic Stripe on SR-27 from the Coffee County Line to a point near MP 22.774 (4-Lane Section) southwest of Enterprise. Length 4.595 mi.

The total amount of uncompleted work under contract to a contractor must not exceed the amount of his or her qualification certificate. The Entire Project Shall Be Completed In Forty-five (45) Working Days. A 0.50% DBE Contract Obligation Is Required.

A Bidding Proposal may be purchased for \$5.00. Plans may be purchased for \$6.00 per set. Plans and Proposals are available at the Alabama Department of Transportation, 1409 Coliseum Boulevard, Room E-108, Montgomery, AL 36110. Checks should be made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation. Plans and Proposals will be mailed only upon receipt of remittance. No refunds will be made.

Minimum wage rates for this project have been predetermined by the Secretary of Labor and are set forth in the advertised specifications. This project is subject to the contract work hours and Safety Standards Act and its implementing regulations.

Cashier's check or bid bond for 5% of bid (maximum - \$50,000.00) made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation must accompany each bid as evidence of good faith.

The bracket range is shown only to provide general financial information to contractors and bonding companies concerning the project's complexity and size. This Bracket should not be used in preparing a bid, nor will this bracket have any bearing on the decision to award this contract.

The Bracket Estimate On This Project Is From \$1,569,724 To \$1,918,551. The proposed work shall be performed in conformity with the rules and regulations for carrying out the Federal Highway Act. Plans and Specifications are on file in Room E-108 of the Alabama Department of Transportation at Montgomery, Alabama 36110.

In accordance with the rules and regulations of The Alabama Department of Transportation, proposals will be issued only to prequalified contractors or their authorized representatives, upon requests that are received before 10 AM., on the day previous to the day of opening of bids.

The bidder's proposal must be submitted on the complete original proposal furnished him or her by the Alabama Department of Transportation.

The Alabama Department

of Transportation, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42

U.S.C. 2000D TO 2000D-4 and Title 49 code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of The Secretary, Part 21, nondiscrimination in federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The right to reject any or all bids is reserved.
JOHN R. COOPER
Transportation Director
2/8,15&22-chg.

STATE OF ALABAMA PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS the Alabama Legislature at its 2023 Second Special Session enacted Act No. 2023-562 (SB3), proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022;

WHEREAS, in conformity with Section 284 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, as amended, the Legislature has ordered an election by the qualified electors of the state upon such proposed amendment; and

WHEREAS notice of this election, together with the proposed amendment, is required by law to be given by proclamation of the Governor, which shall be published once a week for at least four successive weeks immediately preceding the day appointed for the election;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, as Governor of the State of Alabama, do hereby give notice, direct, and proclaim that on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, an election will be held in the State of Alabama in the manner and form provided by law upon the following proposed amendment to the Constitution of 2022 of the State of Alabama:

A M E N D M E N T PROPOSED BY ACT NO. 2023-562

"Section 71.01

(A) The following words and phrases, whenever used in this amendment, shall have the following respective meanings:

"Basic Appropriations" means, with respect to any regular session of the legislature, such appropriations as the legislature may deem appropriate for the expenditures by the state during the ensuing budget period for the ordinary expenses of the executive, legislative and judicial departments-branches of the state, for payment of the public debt, and for education (excluding, however, any item within the scope of the foregoing that is at the time provided for by a continuing appropriation or otherwise).

"Budget Period" means a fiscal year of the state or

such period other than [a] a fiscal year as may hereafter be fixed by law as the period with respect to which state budgets are prepared and state appropriations are made.

(B) On or before the second legislative day of each regular session of the legislature, beginning with the first regular session after January 1, 1983, the governor shall transmit to the legislature for its consideration a proposed budget for the then next ensuing budget period.

(C) The duty of the legislature at any regular session to make the basic appropriations for any budget period that will commence before the first day of any succeeding regular session shall be paramount; and, accordingly, beginning with the first regular session held after January 1, 1983, no bill (other than a bill making any of the basic appropriations) shall be signed by either the presiding officer of the house or senate and transmitted to the other house until bills making the basic appropriations for the then ensuing budget period shall have been signed by the presiding officer of each house of the legislature in accordance with Section 66 of this Constitution and presented to the governor in accordance with Section 125 of this Constitution; provided, that this paragraph (C) shall not affect the passage of local laws or local constitutional amendments, the adoption of resolutions, or the conduct of any other legislative functions that do not require a third reading; and provided further, that following adoption, by vote of either house of not less than three-fifths of a quorum present, of a resolution declaring that the provisions of this paragraph (C) shall not be applicable in that house to a particular bill, which shall be specified in said resolution by number and title, the bill so specified may proceed to final passage therein.

(D) Upon the signing and presentation to the governor in accordance with the said Sections 66 and 125 of bills making the basic appropriations, the provisions of the foregoing paragraph (C) prohibiting the final passage of bills in the house and senate (other than bills making any part of the basic appropriations) shall cease to be effective and shall not be revived or become again effective as a result of (i) the subsequent legislative history of any bill so signed and presented, including any veto, return with executive amendment, or any other action, or failure to act, by either the governor or the legislature under the provisions of the said Section 125; or (ii) a determination, by either judicial decree or opinion of the justices of the Alabama Supreme Court, that any bill so signed and presented is wholly or in part invalid.

(E) The legislature may, by statute or rule, make such further provisions for the timely passage of bills making the basic appropriations as are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Constitution.

(F) Nothing contained herein shall be construed as requiring the legislature to make any appropriation not otherwise required by this Constitution to be made.

(G) Notwithstanding any provision of this amendment, any resolution authorizing the consideration of a bill proposing a local law adopted before November 8, 2016 March 5, 2024, that conformed to the rules of either body of the Legislature at the time it was adopted, is ratified, approved, validated, and confirmed, and the application of any such resolution is effective from the date of original adoption.

FURTHER, I proclaim and direct that this proclamation shall be published once a week for the four successive weeks immediately preceding Tuesday, March 5, 2024, in every county as required by law.
2/8,15,22,&29-chg.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
SHERMAN DEAN
BLANKENSHIP,
DECEASED.
CASE NO. PR-2024-025

NOTICE OF PROBATE

Letters Testamentary, without bond, of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 9th day of February, 2024 by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.
/s/ Katie Elaine Clements
KATIE ELAINE CLEMENTS, Personal Representative

PRIM & MENDHEIM, LLC

/s/ R. Cliff Mendheim
R. CLIFF MENDHEIM, Attorney for Personal Representative
2/15,22&29-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
JOHN ALLEN MORRIS,
DECEASED.
CASE NO. PR-2024-024

NOTICE OF PROBATE

Letters Testamentary, without bond, of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 9th day of February, 2024 by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.
/s/ Tonia Morris Rose
TONIA MORRIS ROSE, Personal Representative

PRIM & MENDHEIM, LLC

/s/ H. Samuel Prim, III
H. SAMUEL PRIM, III, Attorney for Personal Representative
2/15,22&29-pd.

SPORTS NEWS

Views From

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Our youngest grandson Cannon has finally decided he can get around a lot faster if he walks everywhere he goes, and while he still likes to have something nearby to hold on to if he gets wobbly, he doesn't hesitate to take off in any direction. I told his parents it is just the next 'step' in growing up.

For what it is worth....

*** The Elba Lady Tigers ran their winning streak to 18 games and improved their record to 26-4 last week with three big wins in post-season play. The Lady Tigers did have a fight on their hands in the area finals in their third meeting with Brantley after watching a big lead vanish late, but pulled out the win, and then coasted in sub-region to make it back to the South Region for the second straight year. Elba's experience playing in the massive Garrett Coliseum should pay big dividends and lead to yet another trip to the Big Dance, in Birmingham. Hey, I'm not betting against the Lady Tigers, because all they do is win!

*** The Elba Tigers lost in the opening round of the area tournament, but put together quite a season and finished with a 15-12 record. Elba wasn't expected to be a threat in the area with state tourney participant Florala and region finalist Brantley included in the four-team field, but the Tigers earned a share of the regular season area title and posted their most wins in quite a while. The early exit from the area tournament was disappointing, but did little to take away from the winning season.

*** It was a busy week all across the area with post-season play and while many teams made lots of noise, the only team to advance was the New Brockton Lady Gamecocks. New Brockton won the area tournament on its home court to move to sub-region play, and then surprised Mobile Christian to pick up its 20th win of the season and move on to the South Region with a 20-5 record. This team has had to fight all season against almost every opponent, but has grown as the season progressed and its personality showed in the big sub-region win. There can be no doubt this is a fun bunch to watch and cheer for! As for the other area girls' teams, Brantley saw its late-season surge end in Leroy, but showed everyone that the Lady Bulldogs are still a force in 1A basketball; and, Kinston saw its historic season end in the area tournament, but put the Lady Bulldogs back on the map with a twenty-win season. As for the boys, Zion Chapel watched its season wind down with a sub-region loss to Abbeville, but drew the respect of every opponent with its style of play; Brantley was eliminated in the sub-region round after a late-season surge that put the Bulldogs back on the map; and, New Brockton found out that in post-season play what a team did in the regular season means nothing with a stunning area tourney loss on its home court. Oh well, I said before the season started and throughout the year that this was a very special season for the fans, and with the New Brockton Lady Gamecocks, Kinston Lady Bulldogs and Zion Chapel Rebels all hanging up 20 wins, it was a season to remember.

*** In closing.... The Southeastern Conference announced last week it would distribute \$741 million to its member schools, with an average of \$51.3 million per school, excluding expenses retained by schools that had teams in post-season play. It was also revealed that over 5,400 male and female student-athletes across the conference received athletically related financial aid, and that more than 7,300 total scholarship and non-scholarship student-athletes participated in sports. The money came from revenue generated from television contracts, post-season football bowl games, the college football playoff, the SEC football championship game, the SEC men's basketball tournament and the NCAA championships. As I have said many times before, it is no longer a sport, it is a big business!

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ELBA LADY TIGERS.... show off Area Tournament championship plaque after winning the four-team area tournament. The Lady Tigers will compete this week at the South Region tourney in Montgomery.

Lady Tigers rolling on to region

The Elba Lady Tigers punched their tickets for a repeat performance at the Class 1A South Region Basketball Tournament last weekend with a 66-44 win over McIntosh.

A'Lyric Whitfield and Tajah Robinson both hit three-pointers in the first

Elba Lady Tigers roll to area tourney title

The Elba Lady Tigers swept past two challengers as they ran their winning streak to 16 games and repeated as Class 1A, Area 2, Basketball Tournament champions last week, at the Elba High gym. The wins upped Elba's record to 25-3 and advanced the Lady Tigers to sub-region play against McIntosh.

Following is a recap of last week's tournament action:

Elba 60 Florala 24

The Elba Lady Tigers pulled ahead early and never looked back to post a lopsided 60-24 win over the Florala Lady Cats, in opening round action.

Kendra Juarez poured in eight first quarter points as Elba jumped out to an early 16-6 advantage, while A'Lyric Whitfield added seven points in the second quarter as the Lady Tigers went in at intermission with a solid 34-14 lead. Ayrika Caldwell hit a pair of long three-pointers in the third quarter and Whitfield added seven more points as Elba pushed its lead to 56-19, and the Lady Tigers coasted in with the big 60-24 tournament win.

A'Lyric Whitfield scored 18 points and Kendra Juarez added 14 to lead Elba, while also scoring for the Lady Tigers were Ayrika Caldwell 7, Ana Caldwell 5, Brooke Tinsley 4, Tajah Robinson 3, Taylor Day 3, Alayvia Stinson 3 and Ny'Asia McCollough 3. Kyndra Anthony scored nine points to lead Florala.

Elba 65 Brantley 59

The Elba Lady Tigers wrapped up the area

quarter as Elba sneaked ahead 13-9, and despite hitting only two of eight free-throws attempts in the second quarter was able to carry a 27-17 lead in at intermission. Whitfield scored 11 points in the third quarter and connected on five of six free-throws to

tournament title with a wild 65-59 win over the Brantley Lady Bulldogs, in the tourney finals.

Elba came out ready to play in the third meeting of the season between the two area rivals and behind the play of A'Lyric Whitfield jumped out to an early 20-9 lead, as Whitfield hit a pair of three-pointers and was 5 for 5 at the free-throw line and poured in 15 first quarter points. Whitfield added eight points in the second quarter to keep Elba on top. However, Brantley's Anna Parker Little got hot from behind the arc and hit two three-pointers to help the Lady Bulldogs pull within 33-19 at the half.

Alayvia Stinson hit two three-pointers and Lady Tiger teammate Kendra Juarez added six points in the third quarter as Elba stretched its lead out to 53-42, but Brantley came storming back in the fourth quarter and behind the scoring of Anna Parker Little and Mary Driggers rallied to pull even at 57-57. The Lady Tigers settled back down after the Brantley rally; however, and outscored the Lady Bulldogs 8-2 in the closing minutes to escape with the 65-59 win.

A'Lyric Whitfield scored 31 points to lead Elba, while also scoring for the Lady Tigers were Kendra Juarez 10, Ana Caldwell 8, Alayvia Stinson 7, Brooke Tinsley 3, Ny'Asia McCollough 3 and Ayrika Caldwell 1. Scoring for Brantley were Alex Grimes 16, Anna Parker Little 14, Mary Driggers 11, Myia Mount 10, Coco

help the Lady Tigers stretch their lead to 50-25, and they coasted in the final stanza as seven players scored and Elba posted the 66-44 win.

A'Lyric Whitfield scored 27 points to lead Elba, while also scoring for the

Lady Tigers were Kendra Juarez 8, Alayvia Stinson 8, Ny'Asia McCollough 7, Tajah Robinson 6, Brooke Tinsley 4, and Ana Caldwell 4. Jayla Brown scored 13 points to lead McIntosh.



Elba Lady Tiger Brooke Tinsley goes high to block the path to the goal in last week's area championship win.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

Elba Tigers make early exit from area tourney with loss to Florala

The second-seeded Elba Tigers saw their season come to abrupt end last week in the opening round of the Class 1A, Area 2 Boy's Basketball Tournament, with a 79-58 loss to the Florala Wildcats.

Alvin Henderson and Jamal Siler combined for nine points in the opening quarter and Henderson added 10 points in the second quarter. However, Florala raced out to an early 20-11 lead and by the end of the half the Tigers trailed 45-26. The Tigers rallied in the third quarter as Henderson continued to have a hot hand, but Florala never lost command and at the final horn the season ended for Elba with the 79-58 tournament loss.

Alvin Henderson scored 25 points to lead Elba, while also scoring for the Tigers were Cameron Gray 14, Jamal Siler 13, Jacob Watkins 4 and Ty Sieving 2. Rayshon Coleman and Noah Bryant scored 23 points, apiece, to lead Florala, with Bryant hitting seven three-pointers.



The Elba Parks and Recreation's 12U boys basketball team competed last weekend in the Pea River Youth Basketball League's championship tournament, and the team finished as runners-up for the overall championship falling to Kinston in the finals. The team enjoyed a great season on the basketball court. Team members included: (front) Brayden Green; (middle row) Kaleb Magwood, Zamerian Johnson, RJ Melton, Jacques Hill, Brayson Coppage, and Stryker McCord; (back row) Coach Will Love, Kimorion Lane, Cooper Holley, Jayse Williams, Declan Fitts, and Coach Richmon Singletary.

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SPORTS NEWS

SOUTH REGION TOURNAMENT

Garrett Coliseum, Montgomery

Class 1A Girls

Wednesday, Feb. 14

3:00 – Elba vs. Georgiana

6:00 – Marengo vs. Leroy

Monday, Feb. 19

3:00 – Region Finals

Class 3A Girls

Friday, Feb. 16

3:00 – New Brockton vs. Straughn

6:00 – Houston Ac. vs. Cottage Hill

Wednesday, Feb. 21

12:30 – Region Finals



NEW BROCKTON LADY GAMECOCKS.... improved their record to 20-5 and claimed the area tournament title and sub-region title last week to punch their tickets to the Class 3A South Region tournament this week in Montgomery.

High School

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Thursday, Feb. 15

(Baseball)

Zion Chapel at Elba JV

Red Level at Kinston JV (DH)

Enterprise at New Brockton JR

(Softball)

Kinston at Zion Chapel JV-V

Brantley at Andalusia V

(Soccer)

Eufaula at New Brockton (Girls)

Friday, Feb. 16

(Baseball)

Elba, at Arton Tournament

Highland Home at Zion Chapel JV (DH)

Rehobeth at New Brockton JR

Eufaula at New Brockton JR

Rehobeth at New Brockton V

New Brockton at Headland JV

(Softball)

Elba, at Carroll JV Tournament

Kinston, at Carroll JV Tournament

Providence Ch. At Zion Chapel V

Brantley, at Brantley JV Tournament

Saturday, Feb. 17

(Baseball)

Zion Chapel at Kinston JV (DH)

Headland at New Brockton JV (DH)

(Softball)

Elba, at Carroll JV Tournament

Kinston, at Carroll JV Tournament

Brantley, at Brantley JV Tournament

Monday, Feb. 19

(Baseball)

Elba at Samson JV-V

Carroll at New Brockton V

Straughn at New Brockton V (DH)

(Softball)

Zion Chapel, at Dale County Tournament

Tuesday, Feb. 20

(Baseball)

Kinston at Zion Chapel V

New Brockton at Opp JV (DH)

(Softball)

Floral at Kinston JV-V

Charles Henderson at Zion Chapel

Eufaula at New Brockton JV-V

(Golf)

Kinston, at Pike Lib match

(Soccer)

New Brockton at Northside Methodist (Girls/Boys)

Wednesday, Feb. 21

(Golf)

JV Match, Elba C.C.

Thursday, Feb. 22

(Baseball)

New Brockton at Elba JV-V

Kinston at Highland Home V

Greenville at Zion Chapel V

(Softball)

Zion Chapel at Elba JV

(Soccer)

Carroll at New Brockton (Girls/Boys)

Elba JV softball to open season

The Elba Lady Tiger junior varsity softball team will open its season this weekend when it travels to Ozark to compete at the Carroll JV Softball Tournament, to be held at the Eastgate Recreation Park.

The tournament will include eight area teams, with all teams competing in two pools of four teams each. After pool play is completed, all teams will advance to a single-elimination event.

Elba will compete in Pool A, with games set for Friday at Field 1 at 4:00 against Arton, and at 5:15 against Cottonwood. Its final pool game will be on Saturday, on Field 1, against Pike Lib. Elimination play will begin on Saturday at 12:00 (noon), with games set for two fields.

Teams in the tournament include (Pool A) Elba, Arton, Cottonwood, Pike Lib, (Pool B) Carroll, Houston County, Kinston and Dale County.

All games have a 65-minute time limit, with

no new inning to start after 60 minutes. A one-inning international tie-breaker will be used in pool play, and after one inning a game may end in a tie, while in elimination play the tie-breaker will be used until a winner is determined.

Tickets may be purchased in advance at GoFan for \$10 per person, plus a \$1 procession fee, or \$10 cash only at the gate.

The Eastgate Park is located at 406 Ben Street, in Ozark.

Following the....

TOURNAMENT TRAIL

BOYS:

Class 2A, Area 4

Zion Chapel 77 Luverne 54 – The Zion Chapel Rebels advanced to the tournament finals with a big 77-54 romp past the Luverne Tigers. Jacob Chestnut scored 28 points to lead the Rebels, while Slade Grantham added 17 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists, and Joseph LeGear added 17 points. Jaidin Harris and Omar Crumbley both scored 15 points to lead Luverne.

Highland Home 73 Zion Chapel 46 – The Zion Chapel Rebels had to settle for the runner-up spot at the area tournament as they lost to Highland Home 73-46, in the tournament finals. Joseph LeGear scored 11 points to lead the Rebels, while Jacob Chestnut added nine and Slade Grantham scored five. Jakaleb Faulk led Highland Home with 23 points.

Abbeville 53 Zion Chapel 46 – The Zion Chapel Rebels saw their historic season come to an end with a 53-46 sub-region loss to the Abbeville Yellow Jackets. The Rebels owned a 42-37 lead early in the final stanza and were still ahead 42-41 with three minutes left on the clock, but watched Abbeville close the contest with a 12-4 run to post the wild win. Jacob Chestnut scored 19 points and hit five three-pointers to lead Zion Chapel, while Slade Grantham added 14 points and pulled down nine rebounds. Alec Spann and Cameren Jones both scored 12 points to lead Abbeville.

Class 3A Area 4

Opp 62 New Brockton 51 – The top-seeded New Brockton Gamecocks were ousted in opening round action in a 62-51 upset loss to the Opp Bobcats. Dorian Harris scored 14 points and Reed Adams added 10 points, 10 rebounds and three blocked shots to lead the Bobcats.

Class 1A, Area 2

Brantley 70 Kinston 49 – The Brantley Bulldogs rolled to the tourney finals with a solid 70-49 opening round win over the Kinston Bulldogs. Jayden Parks scored 20 points and grabbed 10 rebounds to lead Brantley, while Harper Kilcrease and Javatis McMeans both scored 13 points, and Daylan Davis added 11 points and 11 rebounds. Michael Thompson scored 22 points and Colby Tew added 21 to lead Kinston.

Floral 78 Brantley 72 – The Brantley Bulldogs were forced to settle for second place in the area tournament after a 78-72 loss to the Floral Wildcats. Daylan Davis scored 29 points and grabbed 14 rebounds to lead the Bulldogs, while Jayden Parks scored 16 points and Harper Kilcrease added 15.

McIntosh 67 Brantley 48 – The Brantley Bulldogs saw their season end with a disappointing 67-38 road loss to McIntosh. Corey Williams scored 6 points to lead five players in double-figures as McIntosh improved its record to 24-4 with the win.

GIRLS:

Class 3A, Area 4

New Brockton 73 Daleville 28 – The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks made it look easy in a lopsided 73-28 opening round win over Daleville. Gabby Eubanks scored 22 points and pulled down 12 rebounds to lead New Brockton, while Reese Eddins added 17 points and three blocked shots, Casey Williams added nine points and six assists, and Aniya Barkley grabbed 26 rebounds. Kiani

Schmitz scored 23 points for Daleville.

New Brockton 57 Pike County 33 – The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks added the area tourney title to the regular season crown with a solid 57-33 win over the Pike County Lady Bulldogs, in the tournament finals. Reese Eddins scored 16 points and had four steals and Ariana Smith added 10 points, handed out seven assists and had four steals to lead the Lady Gamecocks, while Aniya Barkley pulled down 13 rebounds. Jojo Thomas led Pike County with 12 points.

New Brockton 45 Mobile Christian 44 – The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks continued their historic season last weekend with a heart stopping 45-44 sub-region win over Mobile Christian. The teams battled for all four quarters and the outcome wasn't decided until New Brockton's Ariana Smith hit a free-throw in the closing seconds to seal the win. The Lady Gamecocks upped their record to 20-5 with the win and were led by Ariana Smith with 14 points and four steals, and Brittany Williams with 10 points and 12 rebounds.

Class 1A, Area 2

Brantley 45 Kinston 34 – The Brantley Lady Bulldogs tipped off tournament play with an impressive 45-34 upset win over second-seed Kinston. Mary Driggers scored 17 points and grabbed 12 rebounds to lead the Lady Bulldogs, while Anna Parker Little added 13 points and Myia Mount grabbed 13 rebounds. Lauren Norris scored 14 points and Kaley Norris added nine to lead Kinston.

Elba 65 Brantley 59 – The Brantley Lady Bulldogs battled the fourth-ranked Elba Lady Tigers for all four quarters in a 65-59 area finals loss, at Elba. The Lady Bulldogs rallied from a 53-42 fourth quarter deficit to pull even at 57-57 late in the game, but watched Elba pull away late and were forced to settle for second in the area tournament. Alex Grimes scored 16 points to lead Brantley, while Anna Parker Little added 14, Mary Driggers scored 11 and Myia Mount scored 10.

Leroy 45 Brantley 31 – The Brantley Lady Bulldogs saw their season end with a 45-31 sub-region road loss to Leroy.

Place second

Elba Tigers open golf season in tri-match at Elba Country Club

The Elba Tigers opened the golf season last week with a tri-match at the Elba Country Club and placed second.

Pike Lib, led by medalist Braden Prestwood with a 69, won the three-team match, followed by Elba with a 330 and Opp with a 334.

Scores for the Tigers included Jay Wilson 73, Trace Grantham 82, Alex Wisecup 87, Powell Bane 88 and Kade Harrison 89. Payton Byrd participated as an individual and fired a 125.

The Tigers are the defending state runners -up in Class 1A after taking the state title the previous two years.

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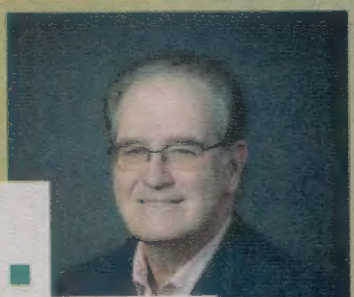
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CHURCH & LIFESTYLES



CLASSMATES GATHER FOR BREAKFAST...Several members of the Elba High School Class of 1966 gathered early Tuesday morning, Feb. 13, for breakfast and fellowship at The Outpost restaurant in New Brockton, Ala. Those present for the monthly gathering included: (l to r) Kenneth Baker, Jackey Tindol, Sara Warr Strong, Bobby Edmondson, Eddie Thompson, Jerome Blackmon, Harry Young, and Terry Calhoun.

Visit Coffee County's website for election information

Coffee County Probate Judge Jodee R. Thompson invites voters to visit the election website: www.coffee-countyvotes.com While there, one can: Register to vote; Check your registration status; View a sample ballot; Find your polling location; View the offices up for elections; View a current list of elected officials; Apply to become a poll worker; Apply for an absentee ballot, and much more!

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M. Dale Marsh establishes endowed scholarship fund at Alabama Law School

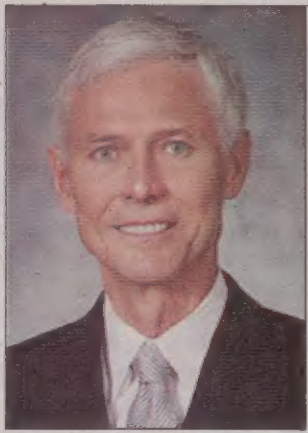
Dale and Joan Marsh, of Enterprise, Ala., have made an estate gift of \$50,000 to The University of Alabama Law School Foundation to create the M. Dale Marsh Endowed Law Scholarship Fund.

The fund is intended to benefit students from the State of Alabama with priority given to those from Enterprise and surrounding counties in the Wiregrass region.

"I sent myself through law school through a combination of part-time jobs, student loans, and modest scholarships awarded in my second and third years of law school," said Marsh. "My experience at Alabama Law provided a great education, close friendships, and a legal career that allows me to do truly interesting work."

He continued, "Today, law school is a three year mentally challenging and six-figure debt commitment. I want to help other deserving students, and this is my way of paying it forward—by helping promising students from Enterprise, Coffee County, and the Wiregrass study law at The University of Alabama."

Marsh received his J.D.



M. Dale Marsh

from Alabama Law in 1974 and returned to his hometown of Enterprise to begin practicing law. Fifty years later, he still maintains an active law practice as managing partner in the firm Marsh & Cotter where he serves as a trial attorney representing both plaintiffs and defendants, municipal/governmental entities, major corporations, and local business and industries. Marsh's two children followed in his footsteps at Alabama Law, with his daughter Katherine Marsh Whitson graduating in 2004 and his son John W. Marsh graduating in 2007.

In 1990, Marsh was inducted into the Alabama Community College System Hall of Honor, and he was inducted into the Alabama Lawyer Hall of Honor in 2023. He continues to be an active member of the Law School Foundation's Board of Governors and served as the Board's president from 2004-2006. He served as a director for Legal Services of Alabama from 2006-2014.

"Mr. Marsh has been a great friend of the Law School for a long time, and he is paving the way for students from southeast Alabama to become the next generation of leaders in our state," said Dean Bill Brewbaker.

Additional contributions to the Marsh Scholarship Fund can be made by contacting The University of Alabama School of Law's Advancement Office at (205) 348-5752.

Round and About With Eria's Daughter

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Scripture: Psalm 34: 1-4

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February Birthdays / Anniversaries

Sharon Williams 2/14
Nicholas and Shai Nelson 2/14 W.A.
Nicholas Nelson 2/15
Velma Whitfield 2/15
Ilaya O. Kelley 2/18
Alexis M. Tillis 2/18
Danielle Hardwick 2/18
Sage Kelly 2/19
Alfred Purvis 2/19
Eliza N. Kelley 2/20
Monica Henderson 2/21
Tiffany Germany 2/21

Celebrating Black History Month

Benjamin E. Mays (1895 - 1984)

Benjamin Elijah Mays, teacher, preacher, scholar, author, newspaper columnist, and activist, played a key role in the formative years of the Black Revolution in structures of power, including the executive committees of the world council of churches and International YMCA, President of the United Negro College Fund, and vice president and board member of the NAACP.

In these different roles, he had a direct and pervasive influence on the black church, the white church, the black college, the white college, and the freedom movement. Of equal and perhaps great importance was the indirect influence he exerted on events through his gifted students (Martin Luther King Jr, Julian Bond, Maynard Jackson, and others), who first caught the flame of freedom and reason while orbiting in the sphere of Mays' influence.

Born Aug. 1, 1895, Mays was a native of Epworth, South Carolina and grew up at the last of seven children of ex-slaves and semi-literate farmers. Stunned by the assertion that blacks were intellectually inferior to whites, he was determined to destroy this myth. After completing elementary and high school in South Carolina, Mays first entered Virginia Union University. After a year, however, he was able to enter Bates College (in Maine), where he settled for himself the question of inferiority by winning a Phi Beta Kappa key and grad-

uating in 1920. He later entered the University of Chicago to earn a M.A. Degree in 1925; a decade later, he was awarded the Ph.D. degree by the same university.

In 1934, Mays joined Howard University as Dean of its scholar of religion, and in 1940 he was named the president of Morehouse College.

Two years after his retirement, at the age of 67, he became the first black president of the Atlanta Board of Education, and at the age of 83, he was elected to his third term, which he served until its close in 1982.

Dr. Mays authored, co-authored, or contributed to more than 20 books, had over 70 articles published in magazines and journals, and was the recipient of more than 40 honorary degrees. (Sources: Lerone Bennett Jr. the last of the great school masters; Russell L. Adams great negroes past and present - Afro-American Publishing co. 1984 edition)

Question / Answer Section

Q/A for the Week of 2/15/24

Q: The one who does not enter the sheepfold by the door is a thief and a

A: Robber [John 10:1]

Q: Paul affirmed that through Christ we are more than

A: Conquerors [Romans 8:37]

Thought to Remember

A sinful heart is like a crooked fence, all the paint in the world won't straighten it.

Questions for the Week of 2/22/24

(True or False)

Q: Jonah was so upset with God that he asked God to take away his life.

Q: Jonah was identified as the cause of the storm at sea by the casting of lots.

Today is a good day! Be grateful.
Eria's Daughter, Sue

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INSIDE

Baseball and
Softball seasons
get underway
locally



The Elba Clipper

Volume 127, Number 40 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, February 22, 2024 1 Section, 10 Pages Plus 1 Adv Insert

Valentine's Day ends with deadly shooting last Wednesday night, Feb. 14

Three suspects arrested for murder of Elba man

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Three people were arrested on murder charges Thursday afternoon, Feb. 15, stemming from a shooting that occurred at approximately 10 p.m. Wednesday night, Feb. 14, in Elba.

Elba Police investigated the shooting, which resulted in the death of a male subject identified by Coffee County Coroner Arnold Woodham to be Ethan

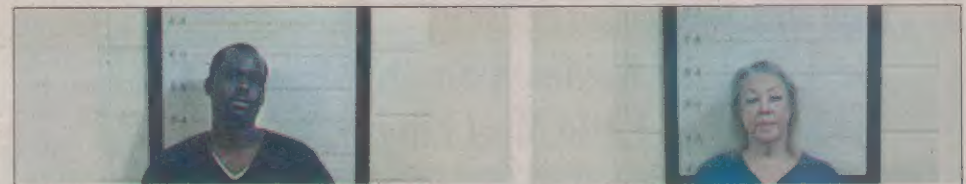
and the District Attorney's Office all responded to the scene.

"Based upon information gathered during the investigation, arrest warrants for the charge of murder were obtained for three individuals," Tarbox said.

Arrested last Thursday afternoon by Coffee County Deputies and charged with murder were Freddie Junior McGee Jr., age 31, of Enterprise, Ala., Lena Michelle McGhee, age 52, of Elba

each had their initial court appearances before Coffee County District Judge Joshua Wilson on Friday, Feb. 16, at which time their Aniah's Law hearings were set for this Thursday, Feb. 22, at 1:30 p.m.

Attorney Richard Waldrop was appointed to defend Mr. McGee, and he requested a preliminary hearing for his client. That hearing was set for March 14, at 10 a.m., at the Coffee County Courthouse.



MCGEE, FREDDIE JUNIOR JR MCGHEE, LENA MICHELL

These suspects, along with a 17-year-old femal juvenile were arrested last week for the murder by shooting of Ethan Hill of Elba. Both suspects above have Aniah's Law pre-trial hearings set for Thursday, Feb. 22, at the Coffee County Courthouse. Until those hearings, they are being held at the Coffee County Jail with no bond set.

ment, Coffee County Sheriff's Office, the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency

Marshall's Fugitive Recovery Task Force, Enterprise Police Department, and the

ing this investigation," the district attorney said. "Due to the ongoing nature of this